opening of the First Grade College, with the prayer and hope that it will develop into a self-sufficient University for the Cochin State. Every subject of His Highness is proud of the headway we have made.

Female Education—The present advancement of the female education is an object of praise. It is no small matter for congratulation, when we see a Second Grade College for Women in our small State. I am told that the Queen Mary's College at Madras is mostly a Cochin College. It will be no vain talk if I am to foretell that, in a few years, Cochin will have to establish a First Grade College for Women, to be affiliated with its own University. To say the least, our State stands first in respect of female education in India. But it is a matter for investigation whether the large amount now spent on Grants in-aid is utilised to the best advantage of the State.

Medical— When we are working with a deficit budget, every means should be adopted to cut short the extravagant expenses. Now, we have, in all, excluding the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, 3 Civil Surgeons, 12 Assistant Surgeons and 33 Sub-Assistant Surgeons, with a corresponding establishment. In a small State like ours, this is too many. Every year, the Medical staff (I mean, ihe htgher staff) is seen increasing. Every means should be adopted to cut short the expenses, without affecting the quality and efficiency of the medical work. We should resort to the cheapest market for our medicines and instruments and, if possible, to India alone.

The Ayurvedic System of treatment should be encouraged more liberally. Our State is the hereditary seat of many efficient Ayurvedic physicians. We are more competent to appreciate the value of the system which is flourishing here than anywhere else. The State support is quite inadequate in this direction. Our Government should take a lead and establish an ideal department, for other Native States and the British Government, to follow. On the medical side, this system is in no way—in my opinion—inferior to any other system, and it is infinitely less costly.

I may say a few words about the appointments in the Medical Department. In March last, an

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